

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A variable-resistance element exhibiting high wear resistance and superior microlinearity includes a resistor 5 constituted from a first resistive layer containing a first reinforcing material and a second resistive layer containing conductive carbon black and a second reinforcing material, the second resistive layer being disposed on the first resistive layer. The first reinforcing material is 10 pulverized carbon fibers having an average particle size of 3  $\mu\text{m}$ . The second reinforcing material is thermal black having an average particle size of 0.35  $\mu\text{m}$ .